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COMMISSIONER, FOOD AND DRUG ADM.
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MARCH 11, 2000

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DEAR COMMISSIONER,

IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE FDA IS AGAIN BEING REQUESTED BY AUDIOLOGISTS TO REQUIRE INDIVIDUALS TO HAVE A HEARING TEST IN ORDER TO PURCHASE A HEARING AID. THIS IS JUST ANOTHER ATTEMPT BY AUDIOLOGISTS TO TAKE AWAY CITIZENS RIGHTS AND LINE THEIR POCKETS.

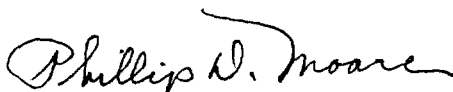
THE FIRST TIME I PURCHASED HEARING AIDS WAS FROM BELLTONE. THEIR AUDIOLOGIST TESTED MY HEARING AND THE RESULTS WERE "YOU HAVE A HEARING PROBLEM", I ALREADY KNEW THAT. THE BELTONE HEARING AIDS WERE NEVER SATISFACTORY. SO THE \$2000.00 I PAID FOR THEM WENT DOWN THE DRAIN.

LATER I LEARNED ABOUT EXCELL HEARING SOLUTIONS. OVER THE YEARS I HAVE PURCHASED TWO HEARING AIDS FROM EXCELL AT A COST OF 1/3 THAT I PAID TO BELLTONE. EXCELL ALLOWS ME TO TRY OUT A HEARING AID AND IF IT IS NOT SATISFACTORY SEND IT BACK WITH NO COST TO ME. MY PRESENT HEARING AID FROM EXCELL IS THE BEST I HAVE EVER HAD. IT MEETS MY NEEDS COMPLETELY.

I EMPLORE YOU TO NOT FORCE ME TO PAY FOR A HEARING TEST IN ORDER TO PURCHASE ANY HEARING AIDS IN THE FUTURE. MOST PEOPLE WHO HAVE HEARING PROBLEMS ARE SENIORS. MANY OF THEM ARE LIVING ON MEAGER RETIREMENTS AND CANT AFFORD TO LINE THE AUDIOLOGISTS POCKETS.

I AM SENDING THIS LETTER TO EXCELL HEARING SOLUTIONS, SO THEY CAN SEND COPIES TO THE APPROPRIATE STATE AND FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES AND SEND IT ON TO YOU. I WILL APPRECIATE IT VERY MUCH, YOUR SINCERE CONSIDERATION OF MY REQUEST.

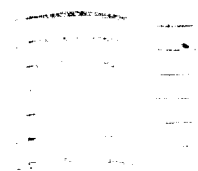
SINCERELY YOURS



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